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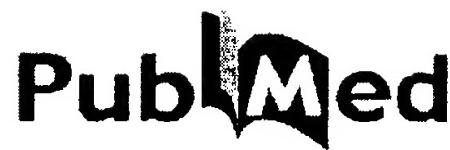
Department of Neurology, Medical School, University of Athens, 'Aeginition' Hospital, Athens, Greece.

Axonal damage is now being recognized as a common finding in multiple sclerosis (MS) lesions and a cause of irreversible neurological damage. Attempts to identify markers of early axonal damage are of great significance. This prompted us to examine the microtubule-associated protein tau in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of patients with MS vs. controls. Tau was measured by double antibody sandwich ELISA. Increased CSF tau levels were found in MS as compared to controls (medians 249.6 and 135 pg/ml respectively, p<0.001). Half of the MS patients presented with levels above the upper limit of the controls. A significant increase vs. controls was found in both relapsing-remitting and progressive subtypes. These data may indicate axonal impairment in a subpopulation of MS patients and may provide a tool for the estimation of axonal damage during life. Copyright 2000 S. Karger AG, Basel.

PMID: 10828654 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

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1: Neurosci Lett 1997 Dec 5;238(3):139-41

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FULL-TEXT ARTICLE

Tau protein concentrations in cerebrospinal fluid of non-demented Parkinson's disease patients.

Molina JA, Benito-Leon J, Jimenez-Jimenez FJ, Orti-Pareja M, Berbel A, Tallon-Barranco A, de Bustos F, Hernanz A.

Department of Neurology, Hospital Universitario Doce de Octubre, Madrid, Spain.

We measured total tau protein concentrations in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of 26 non-demented Parkinson's disease (PD) patients and 25 matched controls. When compared with controls, PD patients had similar CSF tau protein concentrations. These values were not correlated with age, age at onset of PD, duration of PD, scores of the Unified PD Rating Scale (UPDRS), and the Hoehn and Yahr staging, and were not influenced significantly by antiparkinsonian drugs. Our results suggest that CSF tau protein levels are apparently unrelated to the risk of PD.

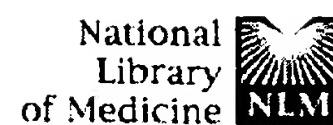
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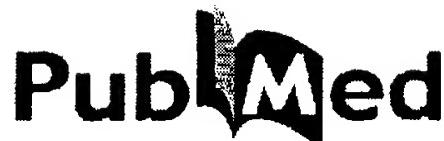
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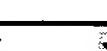
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[1] Neurosci Lett 2001 Mar 9;300(2):95-8

Related Articles, Links

**FULL-TEXT ARTICLE****Tau protein in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF): a blood-CSF barrier related evaluation in patients with various neurological diseases.****Sussmuth SD, Reiber H, Tumani H.**

Department of Neurology, University of Ulm, Germany.

Tau protein (tau) is primarily localised in neurons, and after brain parenchymal damage its release into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) is increased. The particular influences of blood-CSF barrier function and of disease topography on CSF tau levels have not been studied yet. CSF tau concentrations determined by enzyme-immunoassay in various neurological diseases ($n = 61$) were not dependent upon blood-CSF barrier dysfunction. Significant elevation of tau levels in patients with meningoencephalitis and cerebral hemorrhage indicates brain parenchymal damage. In contrast, tau levels remained normal in patients with bacterial meningitis if encephalitic complications did not occur. In patients with Guillain-Barre syndrome tau levels were low. Increased tau levels in active multiple sclerosis compared to clinically nonactive states indicate axonal pathology in active disease.

PMID: 11207383 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]



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